Title: Need to look into the problems being faced by people belonging to Scheduled Castes in obtaining Caste Certificate in Union Territory of Chandigarh- Laid.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (CHANDIGARH) : A peculiar situation has arisen in Union Territory of Chandigarh regarding issuance of S.C. Certificates to the youth belonging to the Scheduled Castes as enumerated in the relevant Constitution Order. As a Union Territory, Chandigarh came into being on 1st November, 1966. As the capital of joint Punjab, its development had begun in early 1950s on the land comprising many villages of the State. The list of Scheduled Castes in the post-reorganisation Punjab is the same as in the Union Territory of Chandigarh.

However, for the last few years, the U.T. Administration has declined to issue S.C. Certificate even to wards of those persons who belong to Scheduled Castes and who already have such certificates if the said person had come to Chandigarh after the 1st of Novemebr, 1966, i.e. when the Union Territory was formed. This sounds illogical and has resulted in great hardship to a large number of youth seeking jobs or admission in educational institutions. Some circular to this effect issued by the Govt. of India fixing a cut-off date should not be enforced in Chandigarh to the detriment of the poor and the disadvantaged.

I urge the Govt. to issue necessary instructions in this regard immediately.